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## Does monetary poverty reflect caloric intake?

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### **Abstract:**

The use of expenditure surveys to measure food insecurity is widely discussed. In this study, we investigate food insecurity in terms of monetary poverty. Using a Malian survey that incorporates exceptionally detailed information on food consumption, we estimate that 35% of the households are in a paradoxical situation, some poor households managing to cover their caloric requirements by eating cheap calories and some non-poor households not doing so because they consume expensive calories and/or face constraints such as the obligation to share meals with visitors and high expenditure on health care or transportation. These findings highlight precautions that need to be taken when measuring food insecurity through monetary income or expenditure indicators.

**KEY WORDS:** *poverty, food insecurity, caloric intake, household surveys, Mali*

### **1 Introduction**

Estimating the number of people who are food insecure is an important monitoring issue for development and food security policies, as well as for monitoring the impacts of economic crises. However, there is no simple, universally accepted method for assessing the proportion of a population that is food-insecure, as Headey (2013) has recently demonstrated in his assessment of the impact of the 2007/08 global food crisis. Since the 1970s, the FAO method, which refers to the global level of food availability, has been based on food balance sheets, assessed from macroeconomic data on production, trade, and consumption. While this is legitimate at the international level, it is nonetheless criticized as an indicator of the number of people undernourished at local levels (for instance Svedberg, 1999, 2000, 2002). This is because it is based on highly aggregated data and hardly explicit hypotheses of distribution among individuals and households. However, during the past two years, the FAO has deployed a great deal of effort to update the food availability data as well as the methodology used to estimate undernourishment (e.g. FAO WFP and IFAD 2012). Household surveys of certain countries have been used to assess more accurately the inequalities of food access within populations. While these changes have resulted in the revision downward of the number of undernourished and the finding that undernourishment has declined more strongly since 1990, the FAO acknowledges that important gaps in data and deficiencies in data quality remain. A more comprehensive picture of the food security situation in every country requires additional indicators (FAO WFP and IFAD 2012). Svedberg (1999 and 2002) recommends employing anthropometric indicators whereas Headey (2013) proposes using self-reporting indicators. Another alternative is to use food consumption and monetary poverty indicators obtained from Household Consumption and Expenditures Surveys (HCES) such as Living Standard Measurement Surveys (LSMS), mainly based on household expenditure recall. These surveys are conducted on a regular basis in most developing countries and encompass large representative samples of several thousand households. To our knowledge, surprisingly few authors (with the exception of Smith and Subandoro, 2007) have formally raised and investigated the question of whether these surveys could be used to assess and monitor food security at the household and national levels. This very recent trend has been discussed both by global institutions and scientists.

Through joint initiatives, the World Bank and the FAO are currently trying to take stock from these household surveys. As a follow up to a meeting in 2010, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) asked the FAO to revise its methodology for assessing undernourishment. One of the recommendations was to make more use of the large household surveys available in different countries. Discussions on this topic also took place at a workshop in Washington DC in April 2011 ("Monitoring,

Assessment, and Data Working Group of the Ten Year Strategy for the Reduction of Vitamin and Mineral Deficiencies”)<sup>1</sup> and at an international symposium in Rome in January 2012 (“International Scientific Symposium on Food & Nutrition Security”).

The strengths and weaknesses of Household Consumption and Expenditure Surveys (HCES) were also recently discussed from a “*nutrition community perspective*” (Fiedler, 2012) as a tool to assess dietary intake (e.g. Dopet *et al.* 2012) or to design nutritional intervention programs (Murphy *et al.* 2012). These authors compared food consumption data calculated from HCES (including purchases, self-consumption and gifts received, expressed in monetary units and converted into kilograms, and then into calories, nutrients, etc.) with other means to measure food consumption (for instance, 24-hour recall). In other words, they discuss the relevance of HCES from an external point of view, while we propose to discuss it from an internal one. Indeed, in the present paper, we put forward a comparison of the level of household poverty, which is the main objective of these surveys, with their level of food consumption. We examine in detail the households that have inadequate food consumption though are not poor according to the monetary poverty indicator and, conversely, those that have adequate food consumption but are monetarily poor.

The overall objective of this paper is thus also to contribute to the debate on the opportunity of using existing HCES to assess the food insecurity status of a population. Here we chose to stick to the original purpose of these HCES (measuring and monitoring poverty through *monetary* indicators) because a huge part of the limited statistical capacities of poor countries, especially those under the Debt Initiative for the heavily indebted poor countries, is devoted to the calculation and monitoring of poverty using these HCES. The idea is to empirically verify whether this indicator of monetary poverty can be used as an indicator of food insecurity.

More precisely, using the national poverty assessment survey carried out in 2001 in Mali — which is unique as it captured both food consumption (measured in quantities) and expenditures (measured in monetary units) — we compare the overlap between a poverty indicator and a food insecurity indicator (household caloric requirement). Certain HCES also include anthropometric indicators (in the case of Mali the 1988/89 budget and consumption survey and the 2001 national poverty assessment survey). Given that these indicators only focus on children under five years old, we assume that they are less representative of the holistic situation of the household than caloric intake. However, a persistent deficit of caloric intake and poor performance using anthropometric indicators are connected. Moreover, by considering the deficit of caloric intake as an indicator of food insecurity, our study is relevant for less developed countries where obesity problems do not exist or are rare.

The paper is structured as follows: after a brief review of the controversy in the scientific literature concerning the relationship between caloric intake and income/total expenditure, the study’s methodology, data, and econometric model are presented. The next sections present the descriptive and econometric results. Section 5 finally discusses the results.

## 2 Literature review: Relationship between caloric intake and income/total expenditure

The conventional view is that insufficient food consumption is linked to insufficient income (Strauss and Thomas 1995; Abdulai and Aubert 2004a, among others). We expect therefore that poor households are food insecure and wealthy households are food secure. But the research results on this topic vary by author and type of indicator employed. Many authors have investigated the relationship between income or total household expenditure (easier to measure) and food insecurity, particularly through the study of “Engel curves”<sup>2</sup> of calories or more sophisticated demand models. The majority of these works (Subramanian and Deaton 1996; Ohri-Vachaspati *et al.* 1998; Abdulai and Aubert 2004b) have concluded that an increase in households’ income or total expenditure would increase their consumption of calories. While these studies have strengthened the view that food insecurity (measured by caloric intake) is associated with low income, Behrman and Wolfe (1984), Behrman and Deolalikar (1987), and Bouis and Haddad (1992) have explained that an increase in a household’s income (including among the poorest) is not necessarily accompanied by extra consumption of calories. It

<sup>1</sup>The workshop has led to a special issue of Food and Nutrition Bulletin: *Food and Nutrition Bulletin*, vol. 33, no. 3, 2012.

<sup>2</sup>Engel, a nineteenth-century statistician, was interested in the evolution of budget proportions according to income. We are interested in caloric intake, but we simplify it by saying “Engel curve.”

depends on income elasticity for each food item. Staple foods are usually considered to be inferior goods while meat and other processed foods are often regarded as normal or superior goods. Another explanation pointed out by Deaton and Dreze (2009) is an increase in food or calorie prices relative to the prices of other goods.

In India, Deaton and Dreze (2009) and Haddad (2009) have recently found that, despite rapid macroeconomic development — the growth of real incomes and the lack of an increase for food relative to income — individuals' caloric intakes declined between 1983 and 2004. These results are very troubling, as the authors themselves acknowledged. Finally, other studies (*e.g.* Baulch and Masset 2003; Darmon *et al* 2010) have compared monetary poverty and various food security indicators (nutritional status, individuals' perceptions) and have found that the connections between these indicators are weak.

### 3 Materials and methods

#### 3.1 Data

The data used here comes from a national household survey carried out in 2001 with the support of the World Bank — the Malian Poverty Assessment Survey (DNSI 2004). Households were selected using a two-stage cluster sampling method: the enumeration area (EA) and the household (DNSI 2004). The 1998 census divided the Malian territory into 12,000 EAs containing roughly 100 households each. For the survey, 750 EAs were distributed by region and rural/urban areas were randomly selected. Ten households were randomly selected from each EA, leading to an initial sample size of 7,500 households. Our analyses focused on a subsample of 4,952 households for which complete data were available and of which 3,121 were rural and 1,831 urban. The survey was conducted in four rounds between January and December 2001. The data collected concerned socio-economic characteristics, food and non-food expenditure statements, as well as the weights of food cooked and consumed in the households. Each round lasted one week during which the surveyors identified the weekly recurrent expenditure and the exceptional expenditure of the three previous months. Foods used in the preparation of various meals consumed at home were systematically weighed every day.

#### 3.2 Empirical model

In this paper, we use caloric requirements as an indicator of food insecurity at the household level and compare it with an indicator of monetary poverty. This comparison gives four possible situations: poor households with insufficient calories, non-poor households with sufficient calories (both expected), poor households with sufficient calories and non-poor households with insufficient calories (both unexpected and paradoxical).

After examining the proportions of households in each situation, we tried to identify factors that affected the relationship between monetary poverty and total caloric requirements. These were the budget structure of households, the cost of the calories consumed, solidarity among households, education of households' women, possession of non-monetary assets, demographic characteristics of households, geographical location and ethnicity.

We used a multinomial logistic regression model in which the different combinations of monetary poverty and food consumption outputs are explained by a set of regressors, namely households' socio-demographic characteristics. The model is essentially empirical: the selected explanatory variables reflecting households' choices (cost of calories consumed, budget proportions) and demographic characteristics (region, ethnicity, environment, etc.).

The probability for a household of being in a particular situation can be written as follows:

$$P_j = \text{Prob}(y = j|X) = \frac{\exp(X\beta_j)}{1 + \sum_{k=1}^m \exp(X\beta_k)}$$

Where  $j=1, \dots, 4$  represents the situation in which the household is found (corresponds to one of the four modalities described above)

$$\sum_{j=1}^4 P_j = 1$$

$X$  is a vector of explanatory variables

$\beta$  is a vector of parameters associated with the explanatory variables

$k$  is the baseline

The probability of being in a particular situation is considered in comparison with the probability of being in the base outcome and is written as:

$$P_j = \text{Prob}(y = m + 1|X) = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{k=1}^m \exp(X\beta_k)}$$

The standard interpretation of the results of such a model consists in analysing factors that increase or decrease the probability of being in one situation with reference to a different situation. Such an interpretation is not really convenient in our case given the high number of situations, all being not relatively interpretable to a unique situation of reference. Marginal effects of changes in explanatory variables on the probability  $\text{Prob}(y = j|X)$  were thus calculated using the method proposed by Chamberlain (Cahuzac and Bontemps 2008). These average marginal effects represent the variation in percentage points of the probability of being in a particular situation when an explanatory variable varies by a unit (quantitative variable) or 0-1 (dichotomous variable). Bartus (2005) considered this method as being the most relevant. The validity of the multinomial logit model is based primarily on the hypothesis of the independence of alternatives. Testing this hypothesis consists of checking that removing one of the four modalities from the dependent variable does not have a significant impact on the estimated coefficients.

### 3.3 Construction of caloric intake and poverty indicators

The total expenditure used to calculate the monetary poverty indicator reflects the sum of the expenditure really incurred, plus the amount of self-consumed production. A monetary value was given to self-consumed production using unit values of purchased goods (expenditure divided by quantities). Median unit values were used in each region. These unit values are quite similar to the actual prices available. In addition, the expenditure concerning durable goods was excluded due to the lack of information on the duration of their depreciation. According to Subramanian and Deaton (1996), the exclusion of this type of expenditure is a standard procedure to minimize the statistical noise.

The poverty line was calculated for each region and type of area (rural or urban). Cost of calories corresponding to the average minimum caloric requirements in each zone (area or region) was estimated, based on an identical food basket containing the foods usually consumed in all regions. The result obtained corresponded to the food poverty line. This line thus depends in part on the structure of activities, age, and gender of individuals in each zone, which influence the minimum caloric requirements, and on the local prices of commodities included in the basket. To estimate the overall poverty line (also taking into account non-food requirements), households whose food expenditure was close to the food poverty line have been identified and their total average expenditure has been calculated.

Two techniques were tested (Bocoum 2011): one described by Pradhan *et al.* (2001) and another by Ravallion (1998). Different results were found (see Table A2). The incidence of monetary poverty in Mali oscillates between 50% and 61%, depending on the poverty line selected, but the regression results are not qualitatively different. Only the results of the lowest line (the most "optimistic") are presented here. To calculate the calories consumed for meals prepared and consumed inside the home, the weight of the food's edible portion used for preparing daily meals was converted into calories using a Malian food composition table (Nordeide 1997). Leftovers and dishes given to other households were subtracted, while dishes received by the household were added to calculate the total amount of calories consumed daily inside the home. The amount of calories consumed outside the home by all household members was estimated and added to home consumption. The final total amount was then divided by the actual number of portions (number of people sharing the meals) to assess the household's average daily food consumption in calories per capita.

Caloric requirements were calculated for each individual in each household from the basal metabolic rate according to gender, age, weight, height, and considering a medium physical activity level. The calculation method was that of Swindale and Ohri-Vachaspati (2005). Total energy requirement at the household level was calculated by dividing the average daily food consumption by the average requirement. Households not reaching 100% were classified as "with insufficient caloric intake" and those reaching 100% were classified as "with sufficient caloric intake".

### **Box 1: Treatment of data outliers**

Data outliers on the quantities used for the preparation of meals and expenses have been detected and treated as follows. The statistical distribution of each type of food (over a hundred) and each of the 39 expenditure categories in each stratum (urban or rural area, region, household size) were analysed. Information outliers were identified by defining “realistic” inter-quartile intervals around the median of distributions. Different intervals were tested before selecting the intervals  $[\text{median} + / - 2 * (Q3 - Q1)]$  for weighted quantities and  $[\text{median} + / - 6 * (Q3 - Q1)]$  for the different expenditure types that seemed to be the most effective given the results. The correction of outliers and missing data consisted of imputing the median value per capita of distribution in the region and the environment in question. These data entries were made for a total of fewer than 10% of observations, which limits the bias that such an action could potentially introduce. The fact remains that our data entry method has the potential effect of “centralizing” the data since we replaced extreme data, judged too weak or too strong, with a median value corresponding to a relatively “homogeneous” group (for the region, area, and household size). Given that this article highlights the extreme cases, it can be assumed that our data entry method has a reducing effect on them.

## **4 Results**

### **4.1 Characteristics of households' budget and caloric consumption**

Table 1 and A1 show the different characteristics related to the mean household budget and caloric consumption. The total annual expenditure (excluding durable goods) per household amounted to a national average of 96,825 CFA francs (FCFA) — 79,577 FCFA and 145,197 FCFA in rural and urban areas respectively. The average rural income of 73,235 FCFA revealed by the more recent *RuralStruc* surveys<sup>3</sup> (Samaké *et al.* 2008) supports our estimates. But, our estimates are below the figures published by DNSI (2004) using the same survey as us: respectively 169,334 FCFA, 129,012 FCFA, and 267,682 FCFA respectively at the national, rural and urban level.

Although our estimates do not take into account the durable goods (1.8% of household budget on average), the difference with the above figures is primarily due to the data cleanings made from the raw data (see Box 1). Indeed, there were many outliers identified in collaboration with statisticians of the National Institute of Statistics of Mali that have been corrected by imputation.

Food expenditures represent on average 70% of the total expenditures (72% in rural areas and 62% in urban areas). Cereals represent almost 50% of the food expenditures (53% in rural areas and 33% in urban areas). The shares of food in terms of total expenditure, as well as the share of cereals within food expenditure decrease with increasing total expenditures, as the figures by quintiles of total expenditures show. This actually confirms respectively Engel's and Bennett's laws.

About 50% of Malians were below the poverty line (respectively 54% and 37% of rural and urban inhabitants). The figures, obtained from the analysis of a recent smaller and less detailed survey, show a slight decrease in these poverty incidences which were 44% at the national scale, 51% at the rural scale and 31% at the urban scale (Eozenou *et al.*, 2013). The inequalities of total expenditure between the households were very high between the poorest quintile and the least poor quintile, but also within the quintiles.

Our estimates showed that the average caloric intake reached 2,259 kilocalories per day per person in Mali in 2001. It should be noted that this result is very close to that estimated by the FAO<sup>4</sup> (2,390 kcal/day/person in 2001), indicating the relevancy of FAO's assessment for this indicator at national scale. In our case, individual food consumption surveys were compiled, whereas the FAO estimate was made based on a food balance sheet from agricultural statistics and average consumption 'norms.' This closeness of the results surprised us given the complexity of the surveys and aggregation calculations in both cases, and tends to reinforce the two methodologies.

<sup>3</sup>These surveys were conducted with 610 farms in 24 villages in the different production areas of Mali.

<sup>4</sup>The FAO website assessed on 25/03/2012. <http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-fs/fs-data/ess-fadata/fr/>

There is little difference between rural and urban inhabitants (respectively 2,245 and 2,298 kcal/day/person). In contrast, the poorest have a significantly lower caloric intake in both rural and urban areas.

The main sources of calories are cereals. They represent, on average, 82% of the total calories consumed. This share is higher in rural areas but decreases with increasing total expenditures.

The share of cereals in total consumption is closely related to the average cost of the calories consumed. Indeed, cereals represent the cheapest source of calories and a lower proportion of this type of food in the food basket is associated with a higher average cost of calories, but also with a more diversified diet.

On average, energy consumption reached 2,409 kilocalories/day/person at the national level (respectively 2,467 and 2,249 in rural and urban environments). Country-wide, Malians consume approximately 94% of their total energy requirement (i.e. calorie intake/average requirement): this is a mean of 91% in rural areas and 102% in urban areas. But this is a very incomplete picture because it ignores inequalities. Indeed, if this calculation is done at the household level, 62% of Malians appear in caloric deficit (66% in rural areas versus 51% in urban areas).

At the country level, and both in rural and in urban areas, the percentage of households in caloric deficit was higher than those that are poor. Moreover, even in the richest quintile of the population, the incidence of energetic deficit was high (between 40 and 50%).

**Table 1. Characteristics of households' budgets and food consumption**

		<b>Total</b>		<b>Rural</b>		<b>Urban</b>		
		<b>All</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Q 1</b>	<b>Q 5</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Q 1</b>	<b>Q 5</b>
<b>Total expenditure/year/per capita in CFA francs</b>	M	95,122	78,070	30,942	154,289	142,945	58,507	271,030
	SD	67,812	49,274	8,238	53,746	87,083	13,224	104,876
<b>Share of food expenditure</b>	M	69%	72%	77%	62%	62%	71%	51%
	SD	0.16	0.15	0.14	0.17	0.14	0.11	0.14
<b>Share of cereals in food expenditures</b>	M	48%	53%	55%	44%	33%	39%	28%
	SD	0.18	0.17	0.19	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.10
<b>Incidence of poverty</b>		50%	54%	100%	0%	37%	100%	0%
<b>Kcal/day/per capita</b>	M	2,259	2,245	1,754	2,606	2,298	1,972	2,493
	SD	722	731	591	714	695	658	704
<b>Average cost of calories</b>	M	0.08	0.07	0.04	0.11	0.11	0.07	0.17
	SD	0.05	0.04	0.02	0.06	0.06	0.03	0.09
<b>Share of cereals in calories</b>	M	82%	86%	88%	81%	73%	78%	67%
	SD	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.09
<b>Caloric requirements/day/per capita</b>	M	2,409	2,467	2,442	2,493	2,249	2,218	2,293
	SD	210	195	173	199	162	133	177
<b>Proportion of caloric requirements met</b>	M	94%	91%	72%	105%	102%	89%	109%
	SD	0.30	0.30	0.24	0.30	0.31	0.30	0.31
<b>Households in caloric deficit</b>		62%	66%	88%	49%	51%	74%	39%

*M: Mean; SD: Standard Deviation.*

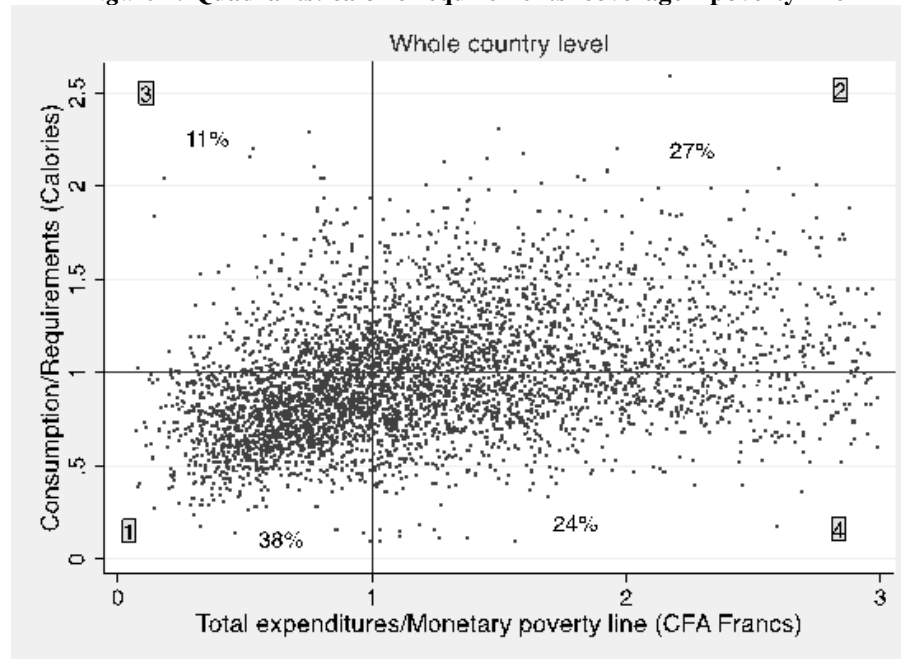
*Source: Authors' results.*

Figure 1 is divided into four quadrants on the basis of calories consumed and total expenditure for each household. Calories consumed are presented as proportions of the minimum sufficiency (the horizontal line). Household expenditures are presented as proportions of the poverty line (the vertical line). Quadrant (1) contains households below the poverty line which are calorie deficient; quadrant (2) contains households above the poverty line which are calorie sufficient; quadrant (3) contains households which, although below the poverty line, are also calorie sufficient; and quadrant (4) contains households which are above the poverty line but are calorie deficient.

The “expected” cases (quadrants 1 and 2) represented 65% of the overall population — 67% and 61% in rural and urban areas respectively. The “unexpected” cases (3 and 4) represented 35% of the population — 33% of the rural population and 39% of the urban population.



**Figure 1. Quadrants: caloric requirements' coverage \* poverty line**



*Source: Authors' estimates.*

#### **4.2 Characteristics related to different combinations of monetary poverty and food consumption outputs**

The econometric estimate suggests ways to characterize the households found in the different quadrants, particularly in quadrants 3 and 4. The explanatory variables in the regression model are described in *Tables 2 and 3*. *Table A4* in the Annex shows the results of this analysis. These regression analyses were made in urban and rural areas, as the consumption characteristics are fundamentally different between these two environments. There are thus two multinomial logistic regressions each for the four modalities corresponding to the four quadrants in *Figure 1*.

McFadden's pseudo-R<sup>2</sup> presented below in *Table A4* allows measuring the quality of model adjustment (Green 2000). This indicator has a limited value in models with discrete dependent variables (it is found in most applications between 0.2 and 0.6: Gujarati, 2004). It is respectively 0.31 and 0.37 in rural and urban areas in our study, indicating that the quality of our model adjustment is high.

The hypothesis of the independence of irrelevant alternatives is valid when the omission of one of the dependent variable modalities has no effect on the estimated parameters (Green *op. cit.*) The Chi<sup>2</sup> statistics provided by Hausman tests<sup>5</sup> in our case allow us to validate this hypothesis. It is likely that the endogeneity of explanatory variables arise for some variables in our model (*e.g.* the average cost of calories), though it was not formally tested. However, as our goal is only descriptive, this problem is less troublesome. Finally, given the large number of explanatory variables, the risk of collinearity between some variables is high. Correlation tests, however, showed a weak link between the different variables (*Table A3* shows the matrix of correlation).<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup>Results available upon request.

<sup>6</sup>The highest correlation coefficients were about 0.3.

**Table 2. Description of variables**

Variable name	Description	Variable type
educ_exp	Budget proportion of education expenditure	Household budget structure
health_exp	Budget proportion of health expenditure	
trans_exp	Budget proportion of transport expenditure	
tobacco_exp	Budget proportion of tobacco and alcohol expenditure	
calcost	Average cost of consumed calories (constant prices)	Food structure
livestockpc	Average number of livestock per capita	Holdings
visitors	Average number per week of visitors invited to share meals	Solidarity between community members
givendish	Average quantity per week of given dishes (in individual portions)	
receivedish	Average quantity per week of received dishes (in individual portions)	
hsize	Average household size	Household demographic structure
u15years	Proportion of individuals under 15 years old	
womeduc	Highest education level achieved by women in household (from 0 for primary school to 11 for university level)	Education level
sedentary	1 if household is sedentary, otherwise 0	Lifestyle
autocons	Proportion of food consumed coming from own production	
bambara	1 if HH is Bambara or Malinké, otherwise 0	Ethnic group of Household Head (HH)
peulh	1 if HH is Peulh, otherwise 0	
sonrhai	1 if HH is Sonrhai, otherwise 0	
senoufo	1 if HH is Sénoufo or Minianka, otherwise 0	
bobo	1 if HH is Bobo, otherwise 0	
arabe	1 if HH is Arab, otherwise 0	
touareg	1 if HH is Touareg, otherwise 0	
sarakole	1 if HH is Sarakolé, otherwise 0	
dogon	1 if HH is Dogon, otherwise 0	
bozo	1 if HH is Bozo, otherwise 0	
maure	1 if HH is Maure, otherwise 0	
othereth	1 if HH belongs to another ethnicity, otherwise 0	
kayes	1 if household is located in Kayes region, otherwise 0	Region of household
kkoro	1 Koulikoro, otherwise 0	
Segou	1 Ségou, otherwise 0	
siksso	1 Sikasso, otherwise 0	
mopti	1 Mopti, otherwise 0	
tomb	1 Tombouctou, otherwise 0	
gao	1 Gao, otherwise 0	
kidal	1 Kidal, otherwise 0	
bko	1 Bamako, otherwise 0	

**Table 3. Descriptive statistics of variables**

	Rural				Urban			
	Poor/ Insufficient calories	Non poor/ Sufficient calories	Poor/ Sufficient calories	Non poor/ Insufficient calories	Poor/ Insufficient calories	Non poor/ Sufficient calories	Poor/ Sufficient calories	Non poor/ Insufficient calories
N	43%	24%	11%	22%	25%	36%	12%	27%
educ_exp	0.84 (1.58)	0.59 (1.23)	0.61 (1.30)	0.78 (1.30)	1.83 (2.30)	1.99 (2.32)	1.55 (1.96)	1.71 (2.03)
health_exp	1.11 (1.78)	0.75 (1.38)	0.57 (1.00)	0.93 (1.90)	1.11 (1.55)	1.29 (1.95)	1.08 (1.80)	1.33 (1.61)
trans_exp	0.15 (0.87)	0.12 (0.84)	0.04 (0.26)	0.09 (0.57)	0.69 (1.97)	0.97 (2.09)	1.15 (2.78)	0.83 (2.46)
tobacco_exp	0.0008 (0.03)	0.0007 (0.02)	0.001 (0.03)	0.0007 (0.02)	0.0006 (0.02)	0.001 (0.03)	0.0009 (0.02)	0.0008 (0.02)
calcost	0.06 (0.03)	0.07 (0.02)	0.04 (0.01)	0.11 (0.06)	0.08 (0.03)	0.10 (0.04)	0.06 (0.02)	0.16 (0.08)
livestockpc	0.50 (0.89)	0.79 (1.94)	0.32 (0.41)	0.69 (1.31)	0.06 (0.21)	0.09 (0.55)	0.22 (1.04)	0.15 (0.90)
visitors	0.08 (0.16)	0.13 (0.18)	0.06 (0.09)	0.23 (0.58)	0.06 (0.13)	0.10 (0.21)	0.05 (0.12)	0.19 (0.37)
givendish	0.01 (0.05)	0.03 (0.11)	0.01 (0.03)	0.04 (0.10)	0.01 (0.02)	0.02 (0.05)	0.01 (0.02)	0.03 (0.17)
receivedish	0.01 (0.10)	0.02 (0.07)	0.01 (0.06)	0.02 (0.06)	0.01 (0.04)	0.06 (0.34)	0.06 (0.22)	0.02 (0.09)
hsize	19.62 (13.57)	9.71 (7.65)	12.99 (9.06)	14.84 (11.64)	17.92 (10.92)	9.12 (5.00)	11.07 (6.51)	12.43 (8.22)
u15years	49.82 (14.14)	45.57 (17.96)	46.36 (15.26)	48.28 (15.61)	45.05 (15.11)	38.51 (18.13)	40.57 (16.31)	41.87 (19.40)
womeduc	1.15 (1.99)	0.94 (2.07)	0.92 (1.74)	1.34 (2.42)	4.19 (3.67)	4.38 (4.07)	3.46 (3.86)	4.48 (3.88)
sedentary	0.94	0.96	0.99	0.98	0.98	1	1	0.98
autocons	69.01 (29.69)	63.54 (30.99)	68.81 (28.83)	58.16 (31.72)	12.53 (23.66)	9.83 (18.24)	15.95 (26.35)	7.24 (14.75)
bambara	0.42	0.35	0.33	0.37	0.38	0.40	0.53	0.25
peulh	0.15	0.13	0.11	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.11	0.11
sonrhai	0.08	0.05	0.04	0.07	0.08	0.06	0.05	0.17
senoufo	0.14	0.13	0.11	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.07	0.06
bobo	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.01
arabe	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
touareg	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.10
sarakole	0.08	0.10	0.07	0.18	0.16	0.09	0.10	0.15
dogon	0.07	0.11	0.27	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.02	0.03
bozo	0.03	0.09	0.01	0.06	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.02
maure	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
otherseth	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.06	0.08
kayes	0.13	0.13	0.07	0.23	0.11	0.08	0.04	0.17
kkoro	0.29	0.07	0.14	0.17	0.09	0.06	0.08	0.05
siksso	0.30	0.16	0.22	0.14	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.07
segou	0.07	0.33	0.21	0.27	0.01	0.21	0.15	0.04
mopti	0.11	0.24	0.30	0.11	0.10	0.09	0.05	0.16
tomb	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.04
gao	0.05	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.09	0.01	0.00	0.18
Kidal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01
Bko	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.48	0.42	0.54	0.28

*Note: Figures in parentheses represent standard deviations*

The distribution of households across the quadrants in rural and in urban areas was different, especially for the “expected” cases (quadrants 1 and 2). The proportion of poor households with insufficient caloric intake was higher in rural areas than in urban areas (43% versus 25%). On the other hand, the proportion of non-poor with sufficient caloric intake was higher in urban areas than in rural areas (36% versus 24%).

Among the variables studied, the cost of calories and the household size were those that most often explained the position of households across the four quadrants (Table A4). In rural areas, the number of visitors sharing households’ meals and residing in the Koulikoro region were also important

determinants, whatever the quadrant considered. In urban areas, the proportion of children in the household and residing in the Segou, Sikasso, and Gao regions were most often the determinant variables (The Box 2 below presents the main characteristics of the different regions of Mali).

**Box 2: Characteristics of the different regions of Mali**

Mali is a large landlocked country of West Africa. With a total area of 1.2 millions km<sup>2</sup>, the majority of the population is involved in agriculturally-based activities. The Northern regions (**Tombouctou, Gao and Kidal**) are the most arid with less than 250 millimeters of rainfall per year. These zones are structurally deficient in terms of food production. The main activities are nomadic and transhumant pastoralism. **Mopti** is located in the South of Tombouctou and receives up to 600 millimeters of rainfall per year. The main activities are agriculture (dry cereals and rice in the Niger Delta) and agro-pastoralism. **Kayes, Koulikoro and Segou** are located in the South-West of Mopti. The activities in these regions vary from livestock rearing in the more arid Northern bound to dry cereals production and more diversified agricultural productions in the Southern bound (maize, cotton and fruits). The “Office du Niger” in Segou is the zone where the main irrigation installations for rice production are located. The Northwest of the region of Kayes is known as the zone where the people receive many remittances. Finally, the region of **Sikasso** at the extreme South of Mali is the most fertile and is often called the attic of Mali. The main products of this region are maize, cotton and fruits.

Before focusing on the paradoxical cases (quadrants 3 and 4), the characteristics of households in the two “expected” cases (quadrants 1 and 2) are presented.

Being non-poor with sufficient caloric intake was associated with higher cost of calories consumed and lower household size in both rural and urban areas, but these associations were stronger in urban areas than in rural areas. Moreover, in rural areas, being non-poor with sufficient calories was associated with higher numbers of livestock per capita and higher numbers of visitors sharing the households’ meals.

Being poor with insufficient caloric intake was associated, in both areas, with higher household size (effect of higher household size stronger in rural areas). In rural areas only, being poor with insufficient calories was associated with the consumption of cheaper calories, greater expenditure on tobacco and alcohol, fewer visitors sharing households’ meals, more numerous dishes received and a lower share of own production in the calories consumed. In urban areas only, a higher proportion of children under 15 years old in the household had a positive (but weak) effect on the probability of being poor with insufficient calories. In these areas, this probability was also linked to a lower level of women’s education. This finding tracked well with the negative relation between child malnutrition and women’s education shown by previous works such as Smith and Haddad (2002).

Ethnicity is a significant determinant of the above “expected cases” only in rural areas. Belonging to the Sarakole ethnic group in comparison to belonging to the Bambara/Malinké group (the most populous) was strongly and positively associated with the probability of being non-poor with sufficient calories and negatively associated with being poor with insufficient calories.

Some regions were also significantly associated with these probabilities in both areas. Living in the rural areas of Kayes and Koulikoro, when compared to living in the rural areas of Mopti (the region randomly selected as the reference), was strongly and positively associated with the probability of being poor with insufficient calories and negatively associated with being non-poor with sufficient calories. Living in the urban areas of Segou and Sikasso, when compared to living in Bamako (the biggest urban centre), was strongly and positively associated with the probability of being non-poor with sufficient calories and negatively associated with being poor with insufficient calories. On the contrary, living in the urban areas of Gao, when compared to living in Bamako, was strongly and negatively associated with the probability of being non-poor with sufficient calories, whereas it was positively associated with being poor with insufficient calories.

Quadrants 3 and 4 are now analysed in depth because they are of particular interest to understand why it is sometimes difficult to estimate food insecurity using monetary indicators.

• **Probability of being poor with sufficient caloric intake (quadrant 3)**

In rural areas, this probability was strongly associated with the lower cost of calories consumed by the household<sup>7</sup> and fewer visitors who shared the household's meals. This probability was also associated with lower household size and a higher share of consumption that came from self-production, but these links were weaker. Moreover, poor households with sufficient calories belonged more to the Sarakole and Dogon ethnic groups rather than the Bambara/Malinke ethnic group, and lived more in the Mopti region rather than the Kayes, Koulikoro, and Sikasso regions.

In urban areas, the probability of being poor with sufficient calories was strongly associated with the lower cost of calories consumed and greater number of livestock owned by the household. This probability was also associated with a lower proportion of children under 15 years old in the household and a higher proportion of consumption that came from own production, but these links were weaker. Finally, this probability was strongly associated with living in Bamako as opposed to living in Kayes, Segou, Sikasso, or Gao.

• ***Probability of being non-poor with insufficient caloric intake (quadrant 4)***

In rural areas, this probability was strongly associated with greater health care expenditure, higher cost of calories consumed, a greater number of visitors sharing meals, and fewer meals received from other households. Moreover, this probability was associated with greater household size, but the link was relatively weak. The non-poor with insufficient calories in rural areas were of Peulh or Bobo ethnicity rather than Bambara/Malinke, and lived in the Koulikoro or Segou regions.

In urban areas, being non-poor with insufficient caloric intake was also strongly associated with the higher cost of calories consumed by the household, a greater number of visitors sharing meals and living in Mopti rather than Bamako. There were also weaker associations between this probability and higher transportation expenditure, greater household size, and a greater number of children under 15 years old in the household.

## 5 Discussion

The results concerning the strong relation between the cost of calories and the probability of being in one quadrant or another mainly reflect two behaviours:

- (1) On average, the non-poor consumed more expensive calories than the poor; this is because of the diversification of their diet, which is less centred on staple foods such as local cereals (See Table 1);
- (2) The households that consumed "paradoxically" were those that tended to consume either the least expensive calories (poor with sufficient calories) or the most expensive calories (rich with insufficient calories). This was true in both rural and urban areas.

In rural areas, it is difficult to say whether these findings reflect the households' preferences to consume cheaper products or an availability constraint: in some remote villages, in the absence of exchange through local markets, diets will be limited to items that can be produced in the region. Agro-climatic conditions determine in this case the components of the food basket. Because cereals are the cheapest source of calories and most commonly grown products, this explains the significant relationship found between higher self-production and being poor with sufficient calories.

At the urban level, as different foods are available in the market, the findings were more linked to preferences, at least for the atypical households. The rate of self-consumption was much lower in the cities (results not shown), and thus people could "choose" with fewer constraints and express various preferences.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>7</sup>The poor consume cheaper calories in general. But, the table of descriptive statistics shows that the poor with sufficient calories consume even cheaper calories than the poor with insufficient calories.

<sup>8</sup>Actually, farming in Mali mainly relies on extensive agricultural systems with very few modern inputs. Even if it were possible for farmers to diversify their crops, it would be difficult to do so because of the bad roads and difficulties of accessing inputs. Moreover, as in many other countries, the agricultural policies of the last decades have not encouraged diversification since they have focused on cotton/maize systems and mono-cropping rice. As a result of their isolation (both for accessing inputs and selling outputs), unevenly distributed rainfall, and highly risky natural and economic environment (very low prices of most commodities and production highly unstable) most farmers adopt risk avoidance strategies to insure minimum production of staple cereals in order to be able to feed their household.

We keep with Sen's (1992) findings that the differences of goals and the variation in the ability to use endowments help to explain differences in behaviour. We also keep with those of Deaton (1997), for whom the existence of non-poor people with an unsatisfactory diet or poor people with an adequate diet are related to the fact that not all households spend a sufficient proportion of their revenue on food in terms of nutritional requirements.

Even poor people can have a relatively satisfactory diet (in the sense of their caloric requirements) if they spend a larger proportion of their budget on food and if they mostly eat low-cost foods (see Table A1). From a case study in several developing countries, Banerjee and Duflo (2007) showed that the poor often spent large sums of money on tobacco, alcohol, or various traditional ceremonies. As this expenditure is not "top priority," they concluded that the poor actually have many choices for managing their budget that would enable them to significantly improve the quality of their food consumption, but they make different choices. These different empirical studies challenge the hierarchy of requirements established by Maslow. Many people prefer to meet social or private requirements, also regarded as "secondary," before completely covering their theoretical nutritional requirements. This implies that good nutrition does not necessarily result from improvements in income alone. Nutrition education may be as important for achieving good nutrition.

Moreover, the increased cost of health care in urban areas and of transport in rural areas increases the probability of calorie deficiency despite adequate total expenditure.

The significant effect of the number of guests at mealtime in rural areas means that, in some cases, lesser social costs promote the ability to meet caloric requirements despite limited financial resources, and in others the inability to cover requirements despite *a priori* sufficient resources.

The significant effect of household size on caloric requirements or lack thereof on the poor and non-poor confirms the negative relationship between the level of caloric intake and the household size found in other studies (Rogers and Lowdermilk 1991; Subramanian and Deaton *op. cit.*; Abdulai and Aubert 2004a).

Our results are mainly based on the comparison of different types of households defined using a particular crossing of monetary poverty and caloric requirements indicators. The main weakness of the method is the attribution of the same characteristics to different households regardless of their proximity or their distance from the monetary poverty line or from the caloric intake threshold. This does not, however, question the validity of the results for a large portion of the population.

We used the most recent, large, and complete household survey available in Mali, which allowed the simultaneous assessment of both household food consumption, using the weights of the different foods consumed at home and monetary poverty using detailed expenditure data. To our knowledge there is no other survey available in the Sahel that has these characteristics. There are, of course, other more recent surveys called "Enquête Légère Intégrée auprès des Ménages" (ELIM) carried out in 2003, 2006 and 2010. Although these surveys include food consumption information, the method of collection of the data is far less precise because they are based on the recall of quantities and frequencies of different items consumed.

By using data from the 2001 household survey, our purpose was not to give a recent account of food insecurity in Mali but to draw attention to the paradox that poor households below the poverty line may consume sufficient calories while those above the poverty line may consume insufficient calories. Our hypothesis is that the factors explaining this paradox are more structural than transient, as may be the food insecurity situation.

Determination of the intra-household distribution of calories is beyond the scope of the present study but should be the subject of further research. Further research is also required to compare poverty indicators with more qualitative food consumption indicators, such as nutrient deficiencies as a household may consume many calories but have a very poor diet in terms of essential nutrients.

## 6 Conclusions

By assigning households to quadrants according to whether or not their caloric requirements are met and according to their position in relation to the poverty line, we have estimated that 11% of households meet their caloric requirements although they are poor, and 24% do not meet them even though they are above the poverty line. The discrepancy between these two indicators is not intrinsically surprising because the determinants of poverty and food insecurity are not necessarily the same. Yet, for most households, the monetary poverty indicator, most frequently available through surveys of households, adequately reflects satisfaction of caloric requirements' coverage.

We have shown that non-poor households do not cover their caloric requirements due to eating habits that are characterized by consuming especially expensive calories and because of certain binding expenditures (health care and transport). In contrast, poor households can meet their requirements when they consume inexpensive calories, but this is likely to be at the expense of the overall quality of their diet. These findings challenge a vision which is centred on the need to meet their caloric requirements as the primary goal of the poorest households.

This research supports the idea that monetary poverty could be a fairly good indicator of food insecurity, but it raises awareness on precautions to make while measuring food insecurity solely through monetary indicators.

Above all, it encourages more frequent use of household surveys in monitoring food security. A cost-effective and precision-conscious way to proceed would consist of completing monetary indicators with other available information. These could be specific food habits, degree of solidarity between households, vulnerability due to health problems or large household size. Moreover, these surveys offer opportunities to analyse further, many other issues for better monitoring of food insecurity and improved food security policies, such as access to inputs in rural areas (land, credit, seeds), access to markets, existence and quality of roads, influence of pricing, also cultural and religious factors.

A deficit in caloric intake is only one aspect of household food insecurity. The results presented in this study thus encourage further research to describe and analyse the complex relationships between the different dimensions of food insecurity and poverty at the household level.

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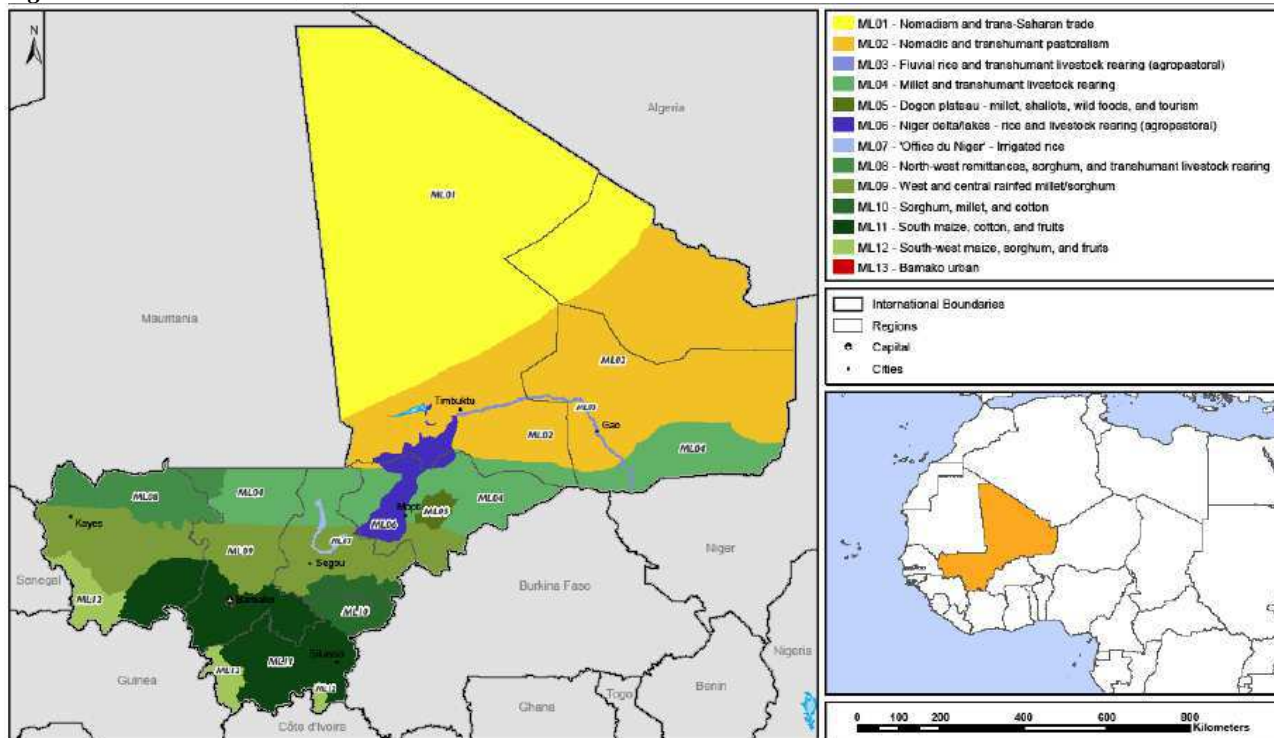
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**Figure 2: The livelihoods zones in Mali**



Source: FEWS-NET

**Table A1. Main characteristics of household food consumption by region in relation to the level of calorie consumption**

Region	Variable	<u>Household with calorie consumption below individual needs</u>		<u>Household with calorie consumption above individual needs</u>	
		M	SD	M	SD
Kayes	Share of food expenditures	71%	0.14	73%	0.14
	Share of cereals in food expenditures	40%	0.17	39%	0.12
	Average cost of calories in CFA francs	0.096	0.059	0.085	0.040
Koulikoro	Share of food expenditures	71%	0.17	70%	0.19
	Share of cereals in food expenditures	52%	0.17	51%	0.17
	Average cost of calories in CFA francs	0.072	0.059	0.064	0.032
Sikasso	Share of food expenditures	67%	0.16	73%	0.15
	Share of cereals in food expenditures	55%	0.17	54%	0.17
	Average cost of calories in CFA francs	0.067	0.050	0.067	0.026
Segou	Share of food expenditures	66%	0.15	71%	0.15
	Share of cereals in food expenditures	45%	0.15	47%	0.16
	Average cost of calories in CFA francs	0.082	0.038	0.067	0.024
Mopti	Share of food expenditures	69%	0.15	76%	0.12
	Share of cereals in food expenditures	52%	0.19	56%	0.17
	Average cost of calories in CFA francs	0.071	0.041	0.058	0.028
Tombouctou	Share of food expenditures	70%	0.16	69%	0.16
	Share of cereals in food expenditures	54%	0.14	52%	0.14
	Average cost of calories in CFA francs	0.100	0.049	0.085	0.034
Gao	Share of food expenditures	69%	0.17	81%	0.14
	Share of cereals in food expenditures	47%	0.14	47%	0.08
	Average cost of calories in CFA francs	0.110	0.057	0.120	0.054
Kidal	Share of food expenditures	63%	0.14	57%	0.11
	Share of cereals in food expenditures	38%	0.12	42%	0.10
	Average cost of calories in CFA francs	0.200	0.100	0.076	0.051
Bamako	Share of food expenditures	63%	0.14	60%	0.15
	Share of cereals in food expenditures	32%	0.13	30%	0.11
	Average cost of calories in CFA francs	0.130	0.079	0.100	0.041
Total	Share of food expenditures	68%	0.16	71%	0.16
	Share of cereals in food expenditures	48%	0.18	47%	0.18
	Average cost of calories in CFA francs	0.084	0.058	0.073	0.035

*M: Mean; SD: Standard Deviation.*

*Source: Authors' estimates.*

*T-tests for Total are significant at least at 10%*

**Table A2. Monetary poverty lines calculated by region and type of area**

Region	Area	Food poverty line (CFA francs per capita and year)	Overall poverty line from Pradhanet <i>al.</i> , 2001 - Lower bound (CFA francs per capita and year)	Incidence with lower bound	Overall poverty line from Ravallion, 1998 - Upper bound (CFA francs per capita and year)	Incidence with upper bound
Kayes	Rural	56,267	70,334	44%	78,273	48%
	Urban	72,780	93,887	30%	111,726	40%
Koulikoro	Rural	60,868	77,302	71%	90,257	80%
	Urban	76,038	101,891	49%	133,653	65%
Sikasso	Rural	55,146	71,690	69%	78,203	75%
	Urban	70,737	98,324	39%	121,832	51%
Segou	Rural	50,684	61,834	28%	76,625	42%
	Urban	61,279	79,050	20%	100,807	37%
Mopti	Rural	47,356	57,774	50%	57,791	50%
	Urban	70,810	94,177	29%	133,912	58%
Tombouctou	Rural	78,825	98,531	49%	117,064	60%
	Urban	79,231	99,831	32%	106,420	39%
Gao	Rural	73,229	92,268	83%	99,325	91%
	Urban	86,977	112,200	29%	204,815	84%
Kidal	Urban	97,407	131,500	43%	247,570	83%
Bamako	Urban	90,361	120,180	44%	169,579	72%
Total Rural				54%		61%
Total Urban				37%		61%
National				50%		61%

*A3. Matrix of correlation of the variables used in the regressions*

	educ_exp	health_exp	trans_exp	tobacco_exp	calcost	livestockpc	visitors	givendish	receivedish	hsize	u15years	womeduc	sedentary
educ_exp	1.0000												
health_exp	0.0989	1.0000											
trans_exp	0.0668	0.0861	1.0000										
tobacco_exp	-0.0668	-0.0164	-0.0219	1.0000									
Calcost	0.0800	0.0188	0.0704	-0.1106	1.0000								
Livestockpc	-0.0674	0.0122	-0.0368	0.0146	-0.0225	1.0000							
Visitors	-0.0350	0.0329	-0.0328	-0.0087	0.2978	0.0308	1.0000						
Givendish	-0.0203	0.0159	-0.0121	-0.0387	0.2482	0.0131	0.3361	1.0000					
Receivedish	-0.0150	0.0100	0.0009	0.0679	0.0525	0.0208	0.0983	0.0760	1.0000				
Hsize	0.0523	0.0422	-0.0109	0.0088	-0.2044	-0.0098	-0.1742	-0.1150	-0.1021	1.0000			
u15years	0.0219	-0.0195	-0.0716	-0.0499	-0.2085	-0.0561	-0.1126	-0.0586	-0.0660	0.1863	1.0000		
Womeduc	0.3672	0.0799	0.1337	-0.1451	0.2416	-0.1258	-0.0490	-0.0055	-0.0262	0.0717	-0.1250	1.0000	
Sedentary	-0.0074	0.0175	0.0237	-0.0210	0.0487	-0.0226	0.0058	-0.0008	0.0084	-0.0075	-0.0091	0.0485	1.0000
Autocons	-0.2115	-0.0250	-0.1177	0.1413	-0.3511	0.1265	-0.0493	-0.0639	-0.0490	0.2180	0.1322	-0.3863	-0.0150
Bambara	-0.0022	0.0228	0.0177	0.0790	-0.0825	-0.0157	-0.0676	-0.0636	-0.0353	0.0550	0.0099	0.0266	-0.0078
Peulh	-0.0553	-0.0213	-0.0022	-0.0275	0.0066	0.0615	0.0085	-0.0017	-0.0115	-0.0526	-0.0292	-0.0399	-0.0313
Sonrhail	-0.0185	-0.0044	-0.0197	-0.1072	0.1180	-0.0294	0.1063	0.1784	0.0525	-0.1158	-0.0072	0.0053	0.0235
Senoufo	0.1101	0.0776	0.0120	-0.0368	-0.0409	0.0262	-0.0174	-0.0197	0.0086	-0.0150	0.0046	0.0438	0.0078
Bobo	0.0172	-0.0276	0.0003	-0.0033	-0.0410	0.0314	-0.0081	0.0026	-0.0021	-0.0053	0.0102	0.0084	0.0027
Arabe	0.0008	0.0014	-0.0014	0.0030	0.0666	-0.0200	0.0134	-0.0040	0.0042	-0.0344	0.0025	0.0085	0.0106
Touareg	-0.0320	-0.0265	-0.0265	-0.0024	0.1314	-0.0302	0.0561	0.0093	0.0309	-0.0771	-0.0107	-0.0356	-0.0066
Sarakole	0.0291	-0.0211	-0.0113	0.0267	0.0329	-0.0073	-0.0050	-0.0216	-0.0106	0.1347	0.0251	-0.0187	0.0047
Dogon	-0.0213	-0.0409	0.0025	0.0451	-0.0783	-0.0241	-0.0178	-0.0213	-0.0286	0.0163	0.0104	-0.0215	0.0277
Bozo	-0.0295	-0.0101	0.0049	-0.0017	-0.0166	0.0127	0.0085	-0.0157	0.0093	0.0001	0.0075	-0.0314	-0.0269
Maure	-0.0169	0.0166	-0.0137	-0.0306	0.0008	-0.0037	0.0354	-0.0062	0.0052	-0.0214	-0.0184	-0.0176	0.0178
Othereth	0.0070	-0.0034	0.0099	-0.0101	0.0375	-0.0292	-0.0159	-0.0037	0.0352	0.0073	-0.0123	0.0423	0.0048

	autocons	bambara	peulh	sonrhai	senoufo	bobo	arabe	touareg	sarakole	dogon	bozo	maure	othereth
autocons	1.0000												
bambara	0.1423	1.0000											
peulh	0.0083	-0.3517	1.0000										
sonrhai	-0.1762	-0.2609	-0.1308	1.0000									
senoufo	0.1003	-0.2405	-0.1205	-0.0894	1.0000								
bobo	-0.0070	-0.1209	-0.0606	-0.0449	-0.0414	1.0000							
arabe	-0.0765	-0.0585	-0.0293	-0.0217	-0.0200	-0.0101	1.0000						
touareg	-0.1550	-0.1215	-0.0609	-0.0452	-0.0416	-0.0209	-0.0101	1.0000					
sarakole	-0.0451	-0.2770	-0.1388	-0.1030	-0.0949	-0.0477	-0.0231	-0.0479	1.0000				
dogon	0.0778	-0.1874	-0.0939	-0.0697	-0.0642	-0.0323	-0.0156	-0.0324	-0.0740	1.0000			
bozo	-0.0244	-0.1359	-0.0681	-0.0505	-0.0466	-0.0234	-0.0113	-0.0235	-0.0536	-0.0363	1.0000		
maure	-0.0231	-0.0981	-0.0492	-0.0365	-0.0336	-0.0169	-0.0082	-0.0170	-0.0387	-0.0262	-0.0190	1.0000	
othereth	-0.0891	-0.1754	-0.0879	-0.0652	-0.0601	-0.0302	-0.0146	-0.0304	-0.0692	-0.0468	-0.0340	-0.0245	1.0000

**Table A4. Average marginal effects**

Area	RURAL				URBAN			
Quadrant	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
educ_exp	0.219 (0.502)	-0.939 (0.617)	-0.173 (0.313)	0.893 (0.542)	0.192 (0.415)	0.326 (0.389)	-0.705 (0.451)	0.187 (0.267)
health_exp	-0.814 (0.426)	-0.324 (0.472)	-0.309 (0.313)	1.447*** (0.382)	-0.422 (0.523)	0.560 (0.475)	-0.748 (0.535)	0.610 (0.340)
trans_exp	0.0305 (0.833)	1.748* (0.821)	-1.182 (0.785)	-0.597 (0.905)	0.214 (0.518)	0.180 (0.467)	-1.082 (0.553)	0.688* (0.329)
tobacco_exp	1.265*** (0.280)	-0.584 (0.352)	0.00444 (0.135)	-0.686 (0.370)	-0.0727 (0.341)	0.309 (0.356)	-0.216 (0.327)	-0.0202 (0.284)
calcost	-234.3*** (22.64)	140.4*** (19.16)	-341.9*** (22.26)	435.8*** (15.75)	27.60 (31.65)	345.5*** (28.74)	-663.4*** (36.30)	290.3*** (24.83)
livestockpc	-0.173 (0.639)	1.079* (0.473)	-0.770 (0.550)	-0.136 (0.486)	-3.779 (2.866)	-0.942 (1.335)	3.812** (1.370)	0.909 (0.729)
visitors	10.47** (3.552)	-12.64*** (3.597)	-8.502* (3.528)	10.67*** (2.767)	4.244 (6.127)	-6.537 (4.654)	-3.225 (6.709)	5.518* (2.349)
givendish	-1.461 (10.87)	4.134 (8.230)	-4.193 (9.934)	1.520 (7.064)	-0.406 (22.05)	-15.68 (18.84)	12.52 (32.20)	3.574 (7.432)
receivedish	20.58** (7.245)	6.277 (7.704)	-2.534 (4.699)	-24.32* (11.26)	-3.939 (7.183)	0.148 (4.172)	2.003 (4.653)	1.788 (2.703)
hsize	1.347*** (0.0933)	-1.710*** (0.141)	-0.275*** (0.0619)	0.638*** (0.107)	1.577*** (0.135)	-2.259*** (0.186)	-0.291 (0.160)	0.972*** (0.110)
u15years	0.0785 (0.0401)	-0.0885* (0.0402)	-0.0104 (0.0233)	0.0204 (0.0411)	0.228*** (0.0555)	-0.228*** (0.0483)	-0.109* (0.0536)	0.108** (0.0352)
womeduc	-0.544 (0.371)	0.299 (0.388)	0.0355 (0.245)	0.209 (0.355)	-0.856** (0.276)	0.575* (0.259)	0.244 (0.283)	0.0377 (0.180)
sedentary	6.490 (3.675)	9.733* (3.834)	-6.091* (2.801)	-10.13* (4.527)	8.390 (9.204)	-21.23 (15.13)	7.036 (11.73)	5.802 (8.306)
autocons	-0.0588* (0.0258)	0.0197 (0.0267)	0.0288* (0.0146)	0.0103 (0.0265)	0.0110 (0.0442)	-0.0556 (0.0463)	0.0948* (0.0438)	-0.0502 (0.0344)
peulh	-0.675 (2.016)	-4.503* (2.078)	-0.293 (1.233)	5.471* (2.242)	0.710 (3.024)	-2.078 (2.759)	0.430 (3.119)	0.939 (2.006)
sonrhai	5.839 (4.802)	-11.92** (3.707)	-3.403 (2.054)	9.483 (5.173)	-0.754 (4.471)	-1.625 (4.029)	-1.290 (4.560)	3.669 (2.984)
senoufo	-6.472* (2.749)	5.328 (3.176)	1.885 (1.989)	-0.741 (3.031)	4.604 (4.374)	-5.773 (3.406)	-2.501 (3.703)	3.669 (2.963)
bobo	-6.441 (5.563)	-11.55** (3.778)	3.936 (3.434)	14.06** (5.409)	-3.106 (6.208)	-5.735 (5.485)	1.872 (5.197)	6.969 (5.303)
arabe	-14.24 (80388.7)	18.53 (44564.9)	-8.082 (134240.9)	3.794 (9287.2)	4.434 (13.42)	0.181 (12.05)	-4.792 (18.56)	0.177 (5.803)
touareg	26.69 (517058.2)	-27.99 (1621152.3)	-8.165 (339370.2)	9.463 (1008050.6)	-2.657 (6.343)	-7.153 (7.180)	1.415 (9.305)	8.395 (5.116)
sarakole	-12.63*** (2.213)	7.055* (2.920)	7.909*** (2.191)	-2.335 (2.531)	-3.957 (2.774)	1.721 (3.192)	2.935 (3.235)	-0.699 (2.203)
dogon	-5.706 (4.003)	0.659 (3.608)	7.448* (3.126)	-2.400 (3.990)	8.168 (5.552)	2.039 (4.832)	-7.435 (4.570)	-2.773 (3.522)
bozo	-4.715 (4.721)	6.057 (4.422)	-4.463 (2.384)	3.121 (4.570)	1.765 (7.233)	12.35 (6.931)	-7.520 (7.515)	-6.593 (4.219)
maure	-8.454 (5.825)	3.497 (5.948)	6.669 (4.721)	-1.712 (5.641)	0.769 (7.340)	1.352 (7.587)	0.459 (7.139)	-2.580 (5.326)
autreseth	-11.63** (3.650)	-4.037 (3.911)	0.333 (2.758)	15.34*** (4.395)	0.605 (4.136)	1.875 (4.260)	-6.131 (3.916)	3.651 (3.190)
kayes	17.00*** (3.738)	-17.68*** (2.214)	-3.351* (1.575)	4.040 (3.501)	-2.502 (3.170)	6.012 (3.650)	-8.510* (3.519)	5.000 (2.771)
kkoro	13.47*** (3.546)	-20.16*** (2.050)	-4.933*** (1.414)	11.63*** (3.455)	0.0341 (2.702)	-1.690 (3.015)	-1.925 (2.651)	3.581 (2.600)
segou	-9.344** (3.226)	-0.133 (2.788)	-0.0647 (1.964)	9.542** (3.446)	-21.22*** (1.751)	27.04*** (3.240)	-5.981* (2.503)	0.155 (2.566)
sikssso	20.38*** (3.837)	-20.56*** (2.022)	-3.208* (1.634)	3.395 (3.484)	-7.326* (3.108)	10.74** (3.837)	-7.206* (3.366)	3.788 (3.061)
Mopti					-6.432* (3.141)	3.294 (3.910)	-4.206 (3.922)	7.343* (3.210)
tomb	20.86*** (5.395)	-16.52*** (2.935)	4.772 (4.130)	-9.110** (3.465)	-1.641 (5.018)	-11.82** (4.411)	9.806 (5.902)	3.655 (3.591)
gao	42.33 (406740.4)	-28.12 (1189322.1)	1.089 (61799.2)	-15.29 (720782.4)	23.99** (7.530)	-19.37*** (5.170)	-13.42* (6.659)	8.789 (4.734)
kidal					23.67* (9.617)	-21.36*** (6.157)	-7.414 (7.984)	5.100 (5.779)
N	3121				1831			
pseudo R-sq	0.314				0.377			

Standard deviation between parentheses P-value: \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.0$

Source: authors' calculations